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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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02/10/2003

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EXAMINER

ST CYR, DANIEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/823,449

Applicant(s)

HIEN ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel St.Cyr

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-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 December 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the amend/response filed 12/3/02.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 7 and 8 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 7, line 1, "9" should be 6.

Claim 8, line 1, "wireless" should be deleted.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-5, 10-16, 21-24, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harari et al, US Patent No. 5,887,145.

Re claims 1, 10, and 21, Harari et al discloses a removable mother/daughter card comprising: a first module 10 having an opening, said first module adapted to be communicatively coupled with an electronic device 200, said first module adapted to receive a second module 20; a controller 40 coupled with said first module for controlling communication between said first and second module; a first module electrical connector 12 to communicate with said electronic device; and a second connector coupled with the first module for communicating with the second module (see figures 1-3 and col. 6, line 59 +).

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Re claims 2, 11, and 22, wherein the first module is adapted to be inserted into said accessible slot of said electronic device (see figure 1).

Re claims 3 and 12, wherein said opening of said first module is adapted to receive said module (see figure 1).

Re claim 4, 5, 13, 14, 23, and 24, wherein said first and second modules are communication memory devices (figure 3).

Re claims 15 and 16, wherein the memory device is digital multimedia card (see figure 4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

7. Claims 9 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harari et al. The teachings of Harari et al have been discussed above.

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Harari et al fails to disclose or fairly suggest that the opening of the first module is larger than accessible slot of electronic device. However, such limitation is an obvious engineering design choice to meet customers' requirements, failing to provide any unexpected results. Furthermore, these types of connection combinations are notoriously old and well known in the art. Therefore, it would have been an obvious extension as taught by Harari et al.

8. Claims 6-8 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harari et al in view of Nelson et al, US Patent No. 6,377,218. The teachings of Harari et al have discussed above.

Harari et al teach that the communication device could be a modem (see col. 8, line 45), but fail to disclose or fairly suggest that the modem is a Bluetooth wireless modem.

Nelson et al disclose a device for providing an antenna, a receptacle, and physical connector on a type II PCMCIA card comprising a radio frequency device 200 wherein the device is Bluetooth wireless device (see col. 3, line 60+ and col. 4, line 34+).

In view of Nelson et al's teachings, it would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the modem device of Harari et al into a Bluetooth wireless modem to provide connection to remote network. Such modification would facilitate connection to existing data networks by providing a bridge mechanism to interface with the data networks. Furthermore, the Bluetooth modem would able to process communication inquiries and requests without involving the host system, which would make the system more effective. Therefore, it would have been an obvious extension as taught by Harari et al.

Response to Arguments

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9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

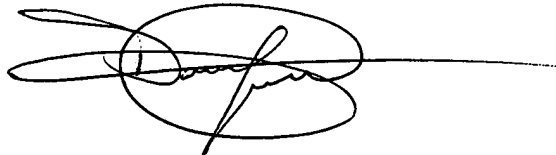
Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel St.Cyr whose telephone number is 703-305-2656. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G Lee can be reached on 703-305-3503. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7721 for regular communications and 703-308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

Daniel St.Cyr
Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel St.Cyr', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large loop at the end.

DS
February 4, 2003